## **Health Equity Task Force**

February 2, 2021 Meeting

### Welcome

This is the thirteenth meeting of the legislative task force established by Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020 (referred to as the "Health Equity Task" Force") to study and make recommendations to the General Court that address health disparities for underserved or underrepresented populations based on culture, race, ethnicity, language, disability, gender identity, sexual orientation, geographic location, including, but not limited to, gateway cities with hospitals dedicated to caring for patients who test positive for COVID-19, and age in the commonwealth during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Health Equity Task Force Members**

#### **Senate Appointees**

**Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz** 

**Senator Julian Cyr** 

**Task Force Co-Chair, Michael Curry**, Esq., Deputy CEO and General Counsel at Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers

**Dr. Milagros Abreu**, Executive Director, President and Founder of The Latino Health Insurance Program **Dr. Cassandra Pierre**, infectious diseases physician and Assistant Professor of Medicine at Boston University **Dr. Frank Robinson**, Vice President, Public Health and Community Relations, Baystate Health

Hirak Shah, Legal Counsel for Senate Minority Leader

#### **House Appointees**

**Representative Carlos González** 

**Representative Liz Miranda** 

**Task Force Co-Chair, Dr. Assaad Sayah**, CEO, Cambridge Health Alliance; Commissioner of Public Health, City of Cambridge; Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

**Dr. Kiame Mahaniah**, CEO, Lynn Community Health Center **Dr. Myechia Minter-Jordan**, President & CEO, DentaQuest

Partnership for Oral Health Advancement and Catalyst Institute

**Jeffrey Sanchez**, Lecturer, Center for Public Health Leadership, TH Chan School of Public Health; Senior Advisor, Rasky Partners

**Beverly Stables**, Health Care Policy Analyst for House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

**Chair of the MA Black and Latino Legislative Caucus** 

**Representative Chynah Tyler** 

**Bruce Tarr** 

**Chair of the MA Asian-American Legislative Caucus** 

Representative Donald H. Wong

### **Agenda**

- 1. Welcome and Introductions of Task Force Members & Approval of January 19 Meeting Minutes (10 minutes)
- 2. Presentation on Connecticut's Health and Health Equity Dashboards (Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM, Executive Director, Connecticut Office of Health Strategy) (30 minutes)
- 3. Presentation of Health Opportunity and Equity (HOPE) Initiative: Measures to Advance Health and Opportunity (Nadia Siddiqui, MPH, Chief Health Equity Officer, and Afrida Faria, MPH, Health Policy Research Analyst, Texas Health Institute) (30 minutes)
- 4. Updates (20 minutes)
  - (A) Reflections on February 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing (All) (10 minutes)
  - (B) Final Report: Updates to Timeline (10 minutes)

# Presentation and Dialogue

Connecticut's Health and Health Equity Dashboards (30 minutes)

Victoria Veltri, JD, LLM, Executive Director, Connecticut Office of Health Strategy

# Presentation and Dialogue

The Health Opportunity and Equity (HOPE) Initiative

Measures to Advance
Health and Opportunity
(30 minutes)

Nadia Siddiqui, MPH, Chief Health Equity Officer, Texas Health Institute

Afrida Faria, MPH, Health Policy Research Analyst, Texas Health Institute

## **Reflections on February 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing (10 minutes)**

- Task Force Member Reflections on February 1<sup>st</sup> Public Hearing (All)
- Additional February 8<sup>th</sup> Virtual Public Hearing (2 6 PM):
  - Registration for Oral Testimony due on Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> by 5 PM.
  - Please email Donna Fox (<u>dfox@challiance.org</u>) and Morgan McCallister (<u>mmccallister@massleague.org</u>) with the subject line: "February 8th Health Equity Hearing Oral Testimony".
  - Written Testimony submission by February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM

## Final Report: Updated Timeline Under Development & Will Extend into March, Reflecting Extensive Input. Further Details at Feb. 16 Task Force Meeting. (10 minutes)

Task Force Work and Stakeholder Input toward Final Report – Report Filing Now Targeted toward end of March 2021 February 1 Public Task Force Meetings on Draft Report and Continued Leadership by Task Force Hearing (1-5 PM) **Draft of Final Report Available for Public Input (Dates Forthcoming)** February 2 Meeting February 16 (3:30 - 5 (3:30 - 5 PM)PM) (Draft Report **Incorporate Input into Final Report and** Review – focus on Report Production (Dates Forthcoming) Dates forthcoming for overview and initial February 8 Public Document to be File Report & Roll-out sections)\* Hearing (2-6 PM) Available for Public Plan (Dates Input Forthcoming) February 23 (3 – 4:30 Incorporate Input on Written Testimony (anticipate a one-to PM) Meeting (Draft Rolling Basis Dates forthcoming: two-week period) Report Review -focus on remaining Dates forthcoming: Task Force Vote on sections)\* Will first incorporate Review of Final Report Final Report input from February 23 by Task Force Task Force Meeting \*Task Force Members (with lead File Report with House Members will receive time provided) & Senate Clerks advance materials with lead time Finalize & Produce Communication Plan Report & Develop Rollout Plan

## **Next Health Equity Task Force Meetings**

### February 8 (2 - 6 PM) Public Hearing #3

<u>Description:</u> The 3rd Public Hearing will receive additional diverse and inclusive stakeholder testimony. We extend the invitation to additional stakeholders to testify. Advance registration for oral testimony is due by Wednesday, February 3rd at 5PM via <a href="mailto:dfox@challiance.org">dfox@challiance.org</a> and <a href="mailto:mmassleague.org">mmccallister@massleague.org</a>.

### February 16 (3:30 - 5 PM) Virtual Meeting

<u>Description:</u> This meeting of the Health Equity Task Force will focus on draft recommendations for the Final Report. Plan is to discuss overview and initial sections.

### February 23 (3 - 4:30 PM) Virtual Meeting

<u>Description:</u> This meeting of the Health Equity Task Force will focus on draft recommendations for the Final Report. Plan is to discuss remaining sections.